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to give him the last farewell—throw a white light upon the domestic life of the Christian soldier.

Arlington, Ravensworth, Richmond, Derwent and Lexington are visualized by the personal touch, and one feels as if an old-fashioned Virginia day had been really spent with Robert E. Lee and his family as one closes the book.

The hero of many battles becomes the loving father, the friend and counsellor of young men, the gentle nurse of a beloved wife, the companion of little children, and if possible fills the heart more completely.

The student of Lee can ill afford to be without this volume bestowed upon the world by the youngest son of Robert E. Lee.

THE AMERICAN NATION. A History. Edited by A. B. Hart, Prof. History Harvard University. New York and London. Harper & Brothers. 1904.

GROUP I.

Vol. 1. European Background of American History, by E. P. Cheyney, Prof. Hist., Univ. of Pa.

Vol. 2. Basis of American History, by Livingston Farrand, Prof. Anthropology, Columbia Univ.

Vol. 3. Spain in America, by E. G. Bourne, Prof. Hist., Yale Univ.

Vol. 4. England in America, by L. G. Tyler, President William and Mary College.

Vol. 5. Colonial Self Government, by C. M. Andrews, Prof. Hist., Bryn Mawr Coll.

Professor Hart's conception of a history of America written by specialists, but interesting and instructive to the general reader, has been very successfully carried into execution. If the whole work is done in the manner of the first group, it will be a most valuable addition to our historical literature.

Of course our limits will not admit of more than a superficial notice of these five volumes, covering as they do fields so wide and important.

Perhaps the most interesting of the set is the first volume, on the "European Background of American History," by Professor Cheyney. It treats of matters of which the reader of ordinary histories has but little information. Beginning with an explanation of why the West so greatly coveted the goods of the East, he goes on through a description of ancient trade routes to India, China, &c., describes the interruptions to traffic over these lines by the conquests of the Turks, the manner in which the nations of Europe turned to the Western ocean as a new way to the East, tells of the Italian explorers and Portuguese pioneering, the rise of the Spanish monarchy and its acquirement of such vast regions in America. The author then turns to the things which influenced the settlement of the New World: the political institutions of Central Europe, the system of chartered companies, the Reformation and religious wars, the English Church, Puritans, the English government and English local institutions.

Professor Farrand, in the second volume, takes up "The Basis of American History," and contributes a very valuable work on the physiography of America and the native races.

Professor Bourne's object in the next volume which follows, "Spain in America," is not to give a complete history of the Spanish colonies, but of the discovery and exploration of America from the birth of Columbus to the beginning of continuous activity in colonization by the English, and also to present an outline of the Spanish Colonial system and the first stage of the transmission of European culture to America. All of these subjects he has handled in a most scholarly and attractive way.

English Colonization in America is reached in the fourth volume, "England in America," by President Tyler, of William and Mary College. Much of this volume, of course, relates to Virginia, and when it is acknowledged that there is no other man in America so well equipped to write a history of Virginia as the author of this book, further comment on this part of his work is unnecessary. We may disagree with him on minor points—the obscure matter of the reincorporation of the Virginia Company, and the action of Sandys and the Virginia government in regard to it, may not have been exactly as the author states; but there are but few instances in which he can be questioned. His treatment of New England is fair and appreciative, though he takes the ground in regard to some actions and some characters, which, however different from the old orthodox ideas of New England historians, is that now common among historical students. Whatever reputation as saints the New Englanders have lost through modern investigation, has been more than repaid in tributes to their ability and courage.

The last volume of the series is Professor Andrews's "Colonial Self Government," which traces the history of the colonies from 1652 to 1689. This period of growth and turmoil is one of great interest, and any treatment of it is apt to cause discussion. The book begins with two exceedingly valuable chapters on the navigation acts and colonial trade, and on the English administration of the colonies. Then the narrative of the colonies themselves is taken up. We can here only refer to the portion that treats of Virginia. The account of this colony during the Civil War (1649-1660) is a correct one, as is, in the main, the chapter on Bacon's Rebellion. The author takes the common view of that insurrection; but the subject is one that still needs special study, and probably the last word is yet to be said. In comparing the rising in Maryland with that in Virginia, Professor Andrews seems to hit the nail on the head, when he states that both had their origin in poverty, ignorance and political discontent.

Poverty, resulting from a long period of low prices for tobacco, was at the root of the evil, and the ignorance of the poorer classes not only made it difficult for them to understand the object of the high taxes; but made them an easy prey to demagogues. The three causes for

this high taxation were the forts, towns and the mission to England. The establishment of forts to protect the frontier was very expensive and probably ineffectual, but it was a method of protection which has since been adopted by the United States government, and at worst was only an error of judgment.

The same may be said in regard to the attempt to establish towns. If they could have been established there is no doubt of the great benefit they would have conferred, and the Assembly did not know that under the conditions of the time towns could not flourish.

The third reason which has been given for high taxes was one of great importance and one which fully justified the Virginia government in spending money. Charles II had granted the whole of Virginia to Lords Arlington and Culpeper for thirty-one years. As Professor Andrews says, many of the political privileges of the colony were in danger of destruction, and it was a matter of vital necessity to combat this grant at once. The commissioners sent to England succeeded in securing a renunciation of the grant, and almost in securing a liberal charter, which would have tied the King's hands as far as trespasses on the rights and territory of Virginia were concerned. As is well known, Bacon's Rebellion prevented the final grant of this charter. Thus all of these reasons for high taxation were not only not based on any desire to rob or oppress the people, but arose from praiseworthy motives.

The much-abused "Long Parliament" of Virginia might also be investigated, and found to be not as black as it has been painted. The question of restriction of the suffrage to freeholders is an exceedingly debatable one; and there are many good people even now throughout the United States who think that government would be better administered if there were such restriction. In Virginia at that day land was so cheap, and so easily obtained, that the freeman who had not industry and intelligence enough to become a freeholder, should not have had the franchise. In recent years much use has been made of the "grievances" which various counties sent to the commissioners who came over to reduce Bacon. These "grievances" have to be studied with care and with local knowledge, for some of them were certainly from little knots of insignificant men, while the bulk of the county is not heard from. An investigation of the records of Lower Norfolk, Northampton, Accomac, York, Isle of Wight, Surry, Rappahannock, Lancaster and Northumberland would show whether the county courts taxed the people for their own benefit as has been charged. And if we had lists of members of all sessions from 1663 to 1676, they would undoubtedly show the folly of the prevalent idea that exactly the same men sat in the Burgesses during the period named. They would, no doubt, show that through deaths, and acceptances of the offices of sheriff and coroner there were frequent "by-elections" (as they are called in England), and that the personnel of the House changed considerably.

Fragmentary lists which have been preserved lend support to this

opinion. In 1663 Charles City had one burgess present who was not a member in 1666, and one in the last year not present in the former. James City had a change of two members between 1663 and 1666; Surry a change of one; Nansemond a change of all of its members; Lower Norfolk an entire change; York a change of one; New Kent one; Westmoreland an entire change; Northampton a change of one, and Accomack also one. In 1667 Lancaster had a new man, as had Northumberland in 1668. Westmoreland had a new member in 1673, Surry the same in 1674, and in this year the new county of Middlesex had, of course, two new members. At the last session of the "Long Parliament," March 1675-76, Middlesex had changed one of its members, and Westmoreland had done the same. When it is recalled that during this period (1663-76) there are only two complete lists of Burgesses—those for 1663 and 1666—and that for the other twelve sessions we have the names of only thirty-nine members altogether (derived from various county records) it will be seen that the change of membership in their long lived Assembly was very frequent.

It may be observed that Professor Andrews quotes, as a fact, the statement made by the English commissioners, that Berkeley sent them from "Greenspring" to the river in a carriage driven by the common hangman; but does not refer to Berkeley's solemn denial and his statement (certainly true) that there was no such official in Virginia as the common hangman.

Each volume of the series has a valuable appendix of authorities, a good index, and a frontispiece portrait of some eminent man of the period under consideration. In the "Authorities" we notice one slip. Professor Andrews on page 352, speaks of the value of the report of the commissioners to the King, and of the "Review, Breviary and Conclusion," and says that neither has been printed in full. The report of the commissioners was printed in full in the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* IV, 119-154, from a copy made not many years ago from the original in the Public Record Office.

Professor Andrews has added greatly to the interest and value of this work by the constant reference to English manuscript sources, which have not been used before.

The first group of volumes of "The American Nation" can be most heartily commended.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S GUARD. REVOLUTIONARY WAR. By Carlos E. Godfrey, M. D., Washington, D. C. Illustrated. Publishers: Stevenson-Smith Co., Washington, D. C., 1904., Pp. 302.

This work—the first complete history published of any military organization engaged in the Revolutionary War—is the production of Dr. C. E. Godfrey, military expert to the State of New Jersey in the compilation of the Colonial, Revolutionary and other old war records, which are prepared upon the following lines:

The History of the Guard, commencing from its formation at Cam-